

OPINION 1607***Mus musculus domesticus* Schwarz & Schwarz, 1943 (Mammalia, Rodentia): specific name conserved****Ruling**

(1) Under the plenary powers it is hereby ruled that:

- (a) all uses of the specific name *domesticus*, published in combination with *Mus* Linnaeus, 1758, prior to its use by Schwarz & Schwarz, 1943, are hereby suppressed for the purposes of both the Principle of Priority and the Principle of Homonymy;
- (b) the specific name *domesticus* Schwarz & Schwarz, 1943, as published in the trinomen *Mus musculus domesticus*, is to be given precedence over all names, with the exception of *musculus* Linnaeus, 1758, that are considered to be synonyms of it.

(2) The name *domesticus* Schwarz & Schwarz, 1943, as published in the trinomen *Mus musculus domesticus*, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the endorsement that it is to be given precedence over all names, with the exception of *musculus* Linnaeus, 1758, that are considered to be synonyms of it.

(3) The name *domesticus* Ratty, 1772, as published in the binomen *Mus domesticus*, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology (a nomen nudum).

History of Case 2640

An application for the conservation of *Mus musculus domesticus* Schwarz & Schwarz, 1943 (the western European house mouse) was received from Dr G.B. Corbet (*The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London, U.K.*) on 26 January 1988. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 45: 214–215 (September 1988). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals. No comments were received.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 December 1989 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 45: 215. At the close of the voting period on 1 March 1990 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 21: Bayer, Bock, Cocks, Cogger, Corliss, Hahn, Halvorsen, Heppell, Kabata, Kraus, Macpherson, Mahner, Martins de Souza, Minelli, Nielsen, Ride, Schuster, Thompson, Trjapitzin, Uéno, Willink

Negative votes — 4: Holthuis, Lehtinen, Nye and Savage.

No vote was received from Starobogatov.

Dupuis and Mroczkowski abstained.

Voting against, Holthuis, Lehtinen and Nye considered that the name *domesticus* Ratty, 1772 should have been ruled to be available; voting for, Thompson was of the same view. Heppell said that the Commission could have ruled that *Mus domesticus* Ratty, 1772 was to be interpreted in the sense of Schwarz & Schwarz (1943). Dupuis and Mroczkowski abstained because they considered the case needed more information and discussion. Supporting the application, Ride drew attention to the importance of there being designated a lectotype (or neotype) of the nominal species *Mus*

domesticus Schwarz & Schwarz, 1943, preferably a specimen of known karyotype. Savage would have supported the application if such a type had been designated.

Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on an Official List and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

domesticus, Mus, Rutt, 1772, *An essay towards a natural history of the county of Dublin...*, vol. 1, p. 281.

domesticus, *Mus musculus*, Schwarz & Schwarz, 1943, *Journal of Mammalogy*, **24**: 65.